



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Internal Services Department

1100 North Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90063



Tom Tindall
Director

To enrich lives through effective and caring service.

Telephone: (323) 267-2101
FAX: (323) 264-7135

December 8, 2009

To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Tom Tindall
Director

Subject: **APPLICATION FOR ENERGY AND EFFICIENCY CONSERVATION
BLOCK GRANT**

This is to notify your Board of the County's plans to apply for a competitive Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funded by the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

On October 13, 2009, your Board accepted \$15.4 million in EECBG formula funding. A significant portion of that funding will be used to develop and implement a community-scale building retrofit program using financing authorized under Assembly Bill (AB) 811, approved in 2008. Under AB 811, counties and cities can provide municipal financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects on private property. The financing remains with the property if it is sold and is repaid through a line-item assessment on the property tax bills.

On October 19, 2009, the Federal Department of Energy (DOE) announced a competitive grant opportunity under the EECBG program, making an additional \$390.04 million available for large counties and cities. The competitive program requires the goals of the EECBG program to be met through proposals that are: "highly leveraged (i.e. at least 5:1 per Federal dollar invested), are broadly replicable and scalable and are designed to be self-sustaining beyond the funding period."

DOE is targeting "high profile, high impact awards that will enable large-scale programs of ongoing energy efficiency retrofits on residential, commercial and public buildings in geographically focused areas." DOE anticipates making up to 20 awards with award sizes of between \$5 to \$75 million. There is no net County cost associated with this application.

The County, with the Internal Services Department (ISD) as lead, has agreed to participate with a group of California local governments to submit a single, coordinated application to support our respective AB 811-type programs.

Honorable Board of Supervisors
December 8, 2009
Page 2

This approach was proposed in lieu of multiple applications from individual California local governments. With the limited number of large awards nation-wide, the participants believe that a joint grant proposal would be advantageous in securing Federal DOE approval.

As the largest entity in the group, Los Angeles County has agreed to submit the grant application as lead agency by the deadline of December 14, 2009. The County's grant application will reflect partnerships with other California jurisdictions to design and implement retrofit programs. Beyond Los Angeles County, these jurisdictions include the following major areas: the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), San Diego County, and Sacramento County. Significantly, the California Air Resources Board and the California Energy Commission are also members of this partnership, signifying their sole endorsement of only this proposal from the State to the DOE. The City of Los Angeles has indicated its intention to submit an independent application.

If awarded, this grant funding would allow the County, in conjunction with many of the cities located within the County, to further reduce greenhouse gases, reduce total energy use, and improve energy efficiency throughout the Los Angeles County region. The County's program would also will help the State achieve greenhouse gas reduction targets under the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32) by targeting energy efficiency and renewable projects within the existing building sector.

Notices of grant awards are expected in late January 2010. We will provide your Board with a status report after those results are known.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 267-2101.

TT:JJ:HC

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
ISD Board Deputies
Chief Executive Officer
Ellen Sandt, DCEO
Lari Sheehan, CEO